



COMMISSION ON CHILD CARE
Meeting Summary Full Commission
November 16, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lindsey Allard Agnamba, Dr. Barbara Andrews, Michelle Belski, Rosalba Bonilla-Acosta, L'Ornya Bowie, Hashan Chowdhury, Carl Eggleston, Brigid Howe, Yvonne Iscandari, Jessica Kelley, Edward Krauze, Sybil Phillip, Laura Seminario-Thornton, Greg Smith, Greg Stevens, Barbara Warman, Lara Woodruff

MEMBERS ABSENT: Pamela Dunn, Krystle Estes, Diana Holzberger, Claudia Simmons, Lynn Sobolov and Dr. Mayme Williams

GUESTS PRESENT: Angela Cabellon (DHHS), Liz Habberman (CUPF) and Michael Subin

STAFF PRESENT: Erin Stillwell (DHHS), Sarah Wilch-Spamer (DHHS)

Ed Krauze called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm

Introduction of Guest Speaker:

Ms. Angela Cabellon, Social Service Officer,

- Discussion about priorities/benchmarks for next two years
 - Developing comprehensive strategy around data sharing (open data sharing)
 - Decrease in educational achievement gap (disparities in schools)
 - Two generation poverty approach (poverty prevention)
 - EICM (DHHS data system to integrate client services being provided across the different service areas; opportunity to offer other services; screening for other needs).
- Discussion about WPA
 - State Child Care Subsidy Program; Montgomery County is the only county that provides the working parent assistance program.
 - WPA is not supposed to replace the State subsidy (different income eligibility limits)
 - Current WPA Wait List: 241 families/370 children
 - OESS (Office of Eligibility Support Services) oversees the WPA program, Yvonne Iscandari is the administrator for OESS

- *Question: What are child care programs outside of WPA and state subsidy?*
Scholarships offered by faith-based or philanthropic organizations or scholarships provided by child care providers
- Demographic trends:
 - East County: 183 state child care subsidy families/10 WPA families; unclear who is accessing unlicensed care (cannot count)
 - Wheaton/Silver Spring: 140 state child care subsidy families/160 WPA families
 - Rockville: 100 state child care subsidy families/45 WPA families
 - Bethesda/Chevy Chase: 30 subsidy families/30 WPA families
 - Gaithersburg/Germantown: 375 subsidy families /150 WPA families
 - Upcounty: 25 to 30 for both programs (subsidy and WPA)
- County Council provided supplemental monies for 2 to 5 year olds on the state child subsidy program:
 - Monitoring the supplemental dollars (in December 2016 will be making decisions about these funds)

Review of Meeting Summary

- Review of meeting summary/minutes from October 19, 2016

ACTION: Approval of the meeting summaries from October 19, 2016 full commission meetings; all in favor; meeting summaries approved without any changes.

Review of Annual Report

- Amendments: need to update chair's letter with Ed's letter, add Greg Smith's name to the Annual Report voting members 2015-16

ACTION: Approval of the 2015-2016 Annual Report with noted amendments; all in favor; annual report was approved with amendments

Discussion of Early Child Care Education Event

- Panel: how many panelists? Should a parent be included?
 - What is the role of the parent? Have a WPA parent and explain their experiences/struggles with trying to locate affordable, quality care?
 - Have a total of 3 panelists (have a director from a center that provides early child care and before/aftercare program?)
 - Have the parent provide a testimonial about trying to access services instead of having them sit on the panel
- Message or Call to Action: Help us fund the cost of high quality care!
- Title Ideas for the Event
 - Funding High Quality Child Care
 - Life with and without
 - Early years matter... Montgomery County
 - Our Children: Worth the Cost of Quality Child Care

- December Committee Meeting
 - Confirm invitees
 - Confirm panelist for the event
- Full Commission meeting on January 18th: have a “dry run” of the event

State Early Care and Education Update (Barbara Andrews)

- Update on State HHS Joint Commission sessions co-chaired by Del. Kelly and Sen. King; creating a letter to be sent to the Gov.

Child Care Subsidy Program (Yvonne Iscandari)

- Have issued 366 supplement vouchers

Early Childhood Coordinating Council (Rosalba Bonilla-Acosta)

- Strategic plan share with ECCC; provided feedback and edits
- Focus for this year (focus on child, family and providers)
 - Family engagement
 - Community Outreach with pediatricians
 - Social Emotional Focus on school readiness
- 10 vacancies on the ECCC

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Montgomery Moving Forward-6th Annual Learning Symposium 11-17-16;
 - 23 speakers
 - Economic imperative

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.